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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 /083 W
---------- 065363
O R 101200 OCT 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3958
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5526

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJECT: MBFR: AIR MANPOWER: SPC MEETING OCTOBER 9

REF: USNATO 5481 DTG 081620Z OCT 75

SUMMMARY: AT OCTOBER 9 SPC MEETING, FRG STATED ITS PREFERENCE FOR INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING, WITH EQUAL SUB-CEILINGS ON GROUND FORCES, AND WITH A FLEXIBILITY MARGIN WHICH WOULD EITHER BE FIXED NUMBER, OR A PERCENTAGE OF THE GROUND FORCE SUB-CEILING. BELGIAN REP MAINTAINED BELGIAN PREFERENCE FOR EXTENSION OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II, A POSITION ON WHICH BELGIUM IS ISOLATED. UK AGAIN CRITIZICIZED US PROPOSAL FO A FLEXIBILITY MARGIN SET AS A PERCENTAGE OF AIR MANPOWER. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 10 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID FRG WISHED TO PROPOSE LANGUAGE
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TO REPLACE THE PRESENT FINAL TIC OF PARA 1 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE ON OPTION III. THIS LANGUAGE WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF ADOPTING THE US LANGUAGE ON SETTING ANAPPROXIMATE LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING, WHILE ALSO PRESENTING THE OFFER OF INCLUSION OF

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AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MAINTAIN
THE FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES. THE WORDING ALSO MAKES CLEAR TO THE
OTHER SIDE THAT THIS PROPOSAL DOES NOT CHANGE THE ALLIED
POSITION AGAINST AGREED REDUCTIONS OF
AIR MANPOWER. THE TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN FRG TEXT:
"IN ADDITION TO THE COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING FOR GROUND FORCE
MANPOWER WHICH MIGHT BE SET AT APPROXIMATELY 700.000 MEN, THE ALLIES
PROPOSE TO COMBINE WITH THIS FIGURE THAT OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE
AREA OF REDUCTIONS IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT WOULD RESULT IN A COMBINED
COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING WHICH MIGHT BE SET AT APPRXIMATELY
900.000 MEN ON EITHER SIDE. THE ALLIES NEGOTIATORS WILL MAKE IT
CLEAR TO THE EAST THAT THIS PROPOSAL DOES NOT ALTER THE POSITION
THAT THE ALLIES WILL NOT ACCEPT AGREED REDUCTIONS ON AIR MANPOWER."
END FRG TEXT.

3. FRG REP SAID THERE WERE TWO OTHER POINTS WHICH FRG WAS STILL
CONSIDERING, ON WHICH IT MIGHT LATER SUBMIT LANGUAGE. ONE IS
THAT THE AHG COULD PRESENT THE OFFER OF THE COMBINED COMMON CEILING
AS A FOLLOW-UP TO WHAT AHG TOLD THE EAST IN CONTEXT OF NO-
INCREASE COMMITMENT, I.E., THAT THE ALLIES WOULD COVER AIR
MANPOWER IN SOME WAY IN PHASE II. SECONDLY, FRG WOULD LIKE FLEXIBILIT
Y
MARGIN OF ABOUT 20,000, BUT HAS DECIDED AGAINST A FLEXIBILITY
MARGIN WHICH WOULD BE A PERCENTAGE OF AIR MANPOWER, AS SUGGESTED
BY US. IN ADDITION TO THE PROBLEMS WITH THIS PROPOSAL CITED
PREVIOUSLY, IT WOULD SHIFT EMPHASIS AWAY FROM GROUND FORCES,
AND TOWARD AIR MANPOWER. FRG IS PRESENTLY EXAMINING THE POSSIBILITY
OF A FIXED NUMERICAL FLEXIBILITY MARGIN, OR A FLEXIBILITY MARGIN
WHICH WOULD BE A PERCENTAGE OF THE SUB-CEILING ON GROUND FORCES.

4. FRG REP OBSERVED THAT INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE
COMMON CEILING WILL WORK ONLY IF THE ALLIES MAINTAIN APPROXIMATE
PARITY IN AIR MANPOWER. IF THE PRESENT DISPARITY OF ABOUT 15,000
AIRMEN IN THE PACT'S FAVOR WERE TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE,
INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING IN THIS MANNER
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WOULD LEAD TO PRESSURE FOR AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS BY THE OTHER
SIDE, AND CONSEQUENTLY BY THE ALLIES.

5. BELGIAN REP (WILLOT) MADE A PLEA FOR SIMPLY EXTENDING
THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER, A POSITION IN
WHICH HE IS ISOLATED. HE URGED THAT THE ALLIES NOT CONSIDER
INCLUSIND AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING UNTIL THOROUGH
STUDY OF RELEVENCE OF DATA AND DEFINITIONS. HE INTRODUCED
A DRAFT PARA 21 FOR THE POSITION PAPER ON OPTION III TO MAKE
THESE POINTS. HE SAID HE HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT GAINING
READY ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PARA, AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD IT
WOULD HAVE TO GO INTO BRACKETS. THE TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

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6. BEGIN BELGIAN TEXT:

21. THE ALLIES MAY ALSO ULTIMATELY WANT TO MODIFY THE POSITIONS SET OUT ABOVE (SEE PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 15) BY EXTENDING THE COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS WITHOUT REDUCTIONS IN AIR MANPOWER EXCEPT POSSIBLY FOR THE VOLUNTARY US REDUCTIONS CONSIDERED IN PARAGRAPH 20 ABOVE. BEFORE DECIDEING ON SUCH A MOVE, THE ALLIES WILL WISH TO GATHER ALL PERTINENT ELEMENTS OF APPRECIATION AS TO THE FEASIBILITY AND/OR ADVISABILITY, SUCH AS THE CONTENTS OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS WHICH HAVE TO BE REACHED WITH THE EAST ON THE DEFINITION OF FORCES AND ON THE DATA AS WELL AS NEGOTIATING OPPORTUNITIES. BEFORE TABLING WITH THE EASTERN SIDE SUCH A PROPOSAL FOR A COMBINED COMMON CEILING ON GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER, A DECISION HAS TO BE TAKEN ON THE STRUCTURE OF THIS COMBINED CEILING (SERVICE SUB-CEILINGS AND/OR LIMITED FREEDOM TO MIX). END BELGIAN TEXT.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 /083 W
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O R 101200 OCT 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3959
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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USDEL MBFR VIENNA
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7. UK REP (BAILES) SAID LONDON CONTINUED TO OPPOSE THE CONCEPT OF A PERCENTAGE FLEXIBILITY MARGIN, AS PROPOSED BY THE US. LONDON HAD ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THE ALLIES NEED CAREFUL STUDY AS TO THE BEST NUMERICAL FLEXIBILITY MARGINS FOR US AND SOVIET SUB-CEILINGS, AS WELL AS FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES. A NUMERICAL FLEXIBILITY MARGIN OF 20,000 WOULD BE ALL RIGHT IN THE POST-PHASE II ENVIRONMENT, BUT APPLIED IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES, IT MIGHT SIMPLY GIVE THE OTHER SIDE

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THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCLUDE 20,000 MEN FROM THE GROUND FORCE
TOTAL SUBJECT TO REDUCTION IN PHASE II. UK WOULD APPRECIATE
FURTHER INDICATION OF HOW THE US SEES THE SUB-CEILING ISSUE
RE US AND SOVIET FORCES AFTER PHASE I, AND IN THE PERIOD
BETWEEN PHASES. FRG REP THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE A GOOD QUESTION
FOR MBFR WORKING GROUP TO STUDY. US REP (MOORE) SAID HE WAS
EXPECTING FURTHER COMMENT FROM HIS AUTHORITIES ON THE FLEXIBILITY
MARGIN, AND SUGGESTED POSTPONING ANY MANDATE TO MBFR WORKING GROUP.

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8. COMMENT: FRG HAS THUS NOW CLEARLY REAFFIRMED IN SPC ITS
SUPPORT FOR INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING,
WITH A COMMON SUB-CEILING ON GROUND FORCES. BELGIAN REP HAD
TOLD US PRIVATELY THE PREVIOUS DAY THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WAS
STILL A CHANCE THAT FRG WOULD COME OUT INSTEAD FOR EXTENSION
OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR-MANPOWER INTO PHASE II,
AND THAT BELGIUM WOULD NOT RECONSIDER ITS OWN POSITION UNTIL
FRG POSITION WAS CLEAR, AND UNTIL IT WAS EVIDENT BELGIUM WAS
TRULY ISOLATED.

9. WE HAVE RECOMMENDED IN PARAS 8 TO 10, REFTEL
THAT THE US NOW SUPPORT A COMMON SUB-CEILING ON GROUND FORCES
WITH A NUMERICAL FLEXIBILITY MARGIN OF ABOUT 20,000 FOR PHASE II,
WITH DECISION ON SIZE OF FLEXIBILITY MARGIN FOR US AND SOVIET
SUB-CEILINGS AND FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES TO BE
DECIDED LATER. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON COMMENT ON THE
FRG WORDING IN PARA 2 ABOVE IN LIGHT OF OUR COMMENT IN PARAS
8 TO 10, REFTEL. WE WOUDL ALSO APPRECIATE WASHINGTON REACTION TO
FRG IDEA OF MBFR WORKING GROUP MILITARY TECHNICAL ANALYSIS OF LEVEL
OF FLEXIBILITY MARGIN FOR US AND SOVIET SUB-CEILINGS, AND FOR
PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES.
WE BELIEVE SUCH A STUDY COULD BE DESIREABLE, AS LONG AS IT
WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT NO ALLIED DECISIONS ON THESE LEVELS
WERE NEEDED PRIOR TO MAKING THE OFFER TO THE EAST, SINCE
INITIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE EAST WOULD NOT ADDRESS
SPECIFICS OF THE FLEXIBILITY MARGIN. IF THERE WERE A WG STUDY,
EARLY US INPUT WOULD BE DESIRABLE.
END COMMENT

10. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING MONDAY,
OCTOBER 13, IN LIGHT OF COMMENT IN PARAS 8 AND 9 ABOVE.
STREATOR

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